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Action

Professional Practices Committee

Paper Screening of Applications for the Committee of Credentials

Executive Summary: The Professional Practices Committee will review applications for one (1) secondary teacher position on the Committee of Credentials. This position became vacant on December 17, 2004.

Recommended Action: Selection of qualified applicants to interview at the March 20, 2005 Commission meeting.

Presenter: Mary Armstrong, Director
Division of Professional Practices

Strategic Plan Goal(s): 1

Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators.

- ◆ Evaluate and monitor the moral fitness of credential applicants and holders and take appropriate action.

Paper Screening of Applications for the Committee of Credentials

Introduction

Staff was notified after the November 30 - December 1, 2004 Commission meeting that the secondary teacher position on the Committee of Credentials had become vacant due to the incumbent's promotion to an administrative position, which makes him ineligible to continue to serve as a secondary teacher member. Applications were prepared and distributed. A postmark date of January 20, 2005 was set as the deadline for the submission of applications.

The Professional Practices Committee is responsible for "receiving and evaluating" applications for appointment to the Committee. Following the review of the applications at the January 2005 Commission meeting, the most qualified applicants will be invited for personal interviews which will be conducted at the Commission's March 10, 2005 meeting. As of the date of the agenda deadline, no applications had been received. Copies of application received before the Commission meeting will be distributed as an in-folder item.

Background

The Committee of Credentials (Committee) is a statutorily created body whose seven members are appointed by the Commission. By statute the Committee is responsible for reviewing all investigations into allegations of misconduct by credential holders and applicants and recommending appropriate action to the Commission. In order to ensure a high level of public confidence in California teachers and other credentialed public school employees, the Commission and the committee monitor the moral fitness and professional conduct of credential applicants and holders.

All Committee-recommended discipline is subject to challenge and appeal by the credential holder or applicant and final approval by the Commission.

Summary and Recommendations

Staff respectfully recommends that members of the Professional Practices Committee review and evaluate the written applications for appointment in order to determine which of the applicants for the secondary teacher position to invite for personal interviews at the March 10, 2005 Commission meeting.

Fiscal and Workplan Impact

Costs associated with the selection process are part of the base budget of the Division of Professional Practices. These include the costs of travel and accommodations for interviewees.